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ABSTRACT

Over the past ten years, the framework of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) has gained traction in Europe. It captures the ambition to make research and innovation processes more inclusive of societal perspectives, attentive to social, ethical and ecological impacts, and flexible in adjusting courses of action when needed. Although broadly discussed in theory, many questions still exist about RRI's translation into the “muddy” context of real world settings. This book aims to shed light on the shaping of RRI in practice. It reflexively studies action-oriented work that was conducted within a European RRI project on public engagement and nanotechnologies. The analyses provide lessons that are particularly valuable in relation to the shaping of public engagement processes, multi-actor sense-making of RRI, and the adoption of new roles by actors working at the science-society interface.